Missing date of birth records of senior army officers

1275. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there are some senior most officers waiting for promotion for top slots in the army who have no record of their date of birth;

(b) if so, the details in this regard and the number of such officers in the army;

(c) how did this lapse occur; and

(d) how this is proposed to be resolved?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A. K. ANTONY): (a) All officers of the Indian Army have a recorded date of birth which is maintained by Military Secretary's Branch of Army Headquarters. Hence, there are no such officers who have no record of their date of birth.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Funds awarded by States to brave military officers

†1276. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that all States do not provide the funds uniformly to the brave military officers and soldiers who render exemplary national service by risking their lives in battle field and in taking on the elements who disturb peace in the country; if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) why the Government is not communicating with State Government's to bring uniformity in this regard;

(c) by when the Central Government will increase the award money for its brave soldiers keeping in view the rising prices; and

(d) what incentives Central Government are giving at present; and whether they are also given promotion?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) and (d) The gallantry awards are given by the Central Government and the awardees are paid monthly allowances and certain other benefits at uniform rates by the Government of India. The monetary benefits and incentives extended by the Central Government are given in the enclosed Statement, (*See* below). Further, in the matter of promotions above the Rank of Lt. Col. or equivalent, weightage, *inter-alia* is also given to gallantry awards won by the officer. The State Governments also extend certain monetary and other benefits to the awardees, which vary from State to State. Grant of these benefits bring the prerogative of the State Government, it is not possible for the Central Government to ensure uniformity in this regard across States.

(c) Regarding increase in the monetary allowance attached with gallantry awards, the same has been revised from time to time. It may not be feasible to prescribe any time frame for the next revision.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi